🕵 Why Everything You Know About World War II Is Wrong

Ron Unz and Mike Whitney
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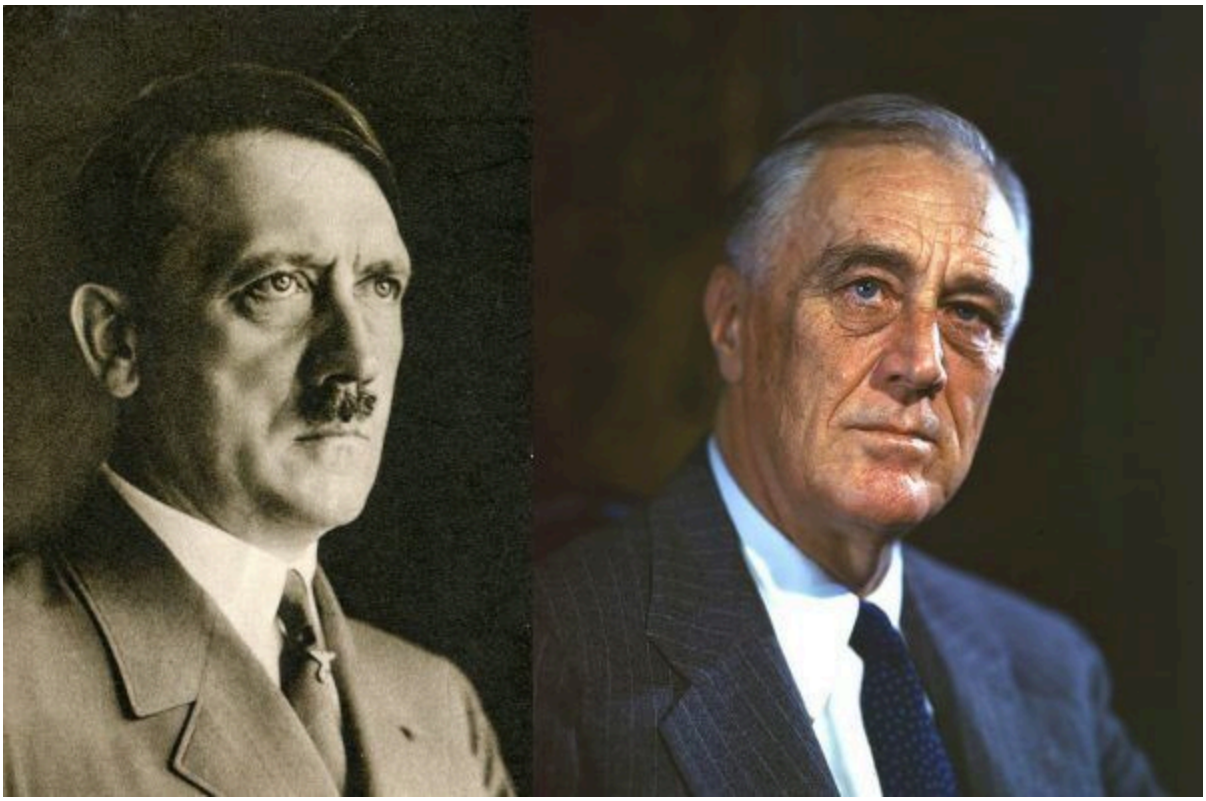

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"Much of the current political legitimacy of today's American government and its various European vassal-states is founded upon a particular narrative history of World War II, and challenging that account might have dire political consequences." — Ron Unz View article as PDF. Audio file 1:36:50.

Question 1: Hitler

Let's start with Hitler. In the West it is universally accepted that:

1. Hitler started WW2
2. Hitler's invasion of Poland was the first step in a broader campaign aimed at world domination

Is this interpretation of WW2 true or false? And, if it is false, then — in your opinion — what was Hitler trying to achieve in Poland and could WW2 have been avoided?

Ron Unz — Until the last dozen years or so, my views on historical events had always been fairly conventional, formed from the classes I'd taken in college and the uniform media narrative I'd absorbed over the decades. This included my understanding of World War II, the greatest military conflict in human history, whose outcome had shaped our modern world.

But in the years after the 9/11 Attacks and the Iraq War, I'd grown more and more suspicious of the honesty of our mainstream media, and begun to recognize that **history books often merely represent a congealed version of such past media distortions.** The growth of the Internet has unleashed a vast quantity of unorthodox ideas of all possible flavors and since 2000 I'd been working on a project to digitize the archives of our leading publications of the last 150 years, which gave me convenient access to information not easily available to anyone else. So as I later wrote:

> Aside from the evidence of our own senses, almost everything we know about the past or the news of today comes from bits of ink on paper or colored pixels on a screen, and fortunately over the last decade or two the growth of the Internet has vastly widened the range of information available to us in that latter category. Even if the overwhelming majority of the unorthodox claims provided by such non-traditional web-based sources is incorrect, at

> least there now exists the possibility of extracting vital nuggets of truth from vast mountains of falsehood. Certainly **the events of the past dozen years have forced me to completely recalibrate my own reality-detection apparatus.**

As a consequence of all these developments, I published my original American Pravda article a decade ago, which contained that passage. In that article I emphasized that what our history books and media told us about the world and its past might often be just as dishonest and distorted as the notorious *Pravda* of the vanished USSR.

- Our American Pravda Ron Unz - ***The American Conservative*** - April 29, 2013 - 4,500 Words

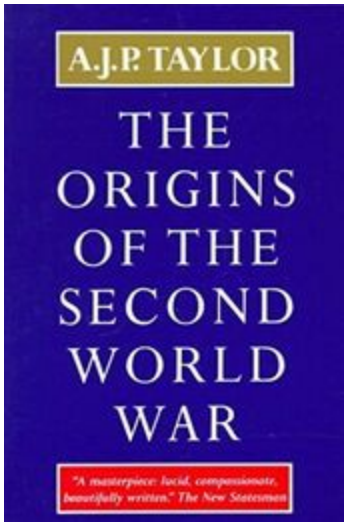
At first, my focus had been on more recent historical events, but **I soon began doing a great deal of reading and investigation into the history of World War II as well, gradually realizing that a large fraction of everything I'd always accepted about that war was completely incorrect.**

Perhaps I shouldn't have been too surprised to discover this. After all, if our media could lie so blatantly about events in the here and now, why should we trust it on matters that had happened long ago and far away?

I eventually concluded that the true history of World War II was not only quite different from what most of us had always believed, but was largely inverted. **Our mainstream history books had been telling the story upside-down and backwards.**

With regard to Hitler and the outbreak of the war, I think an excellent starting point would be *Origins of the Second World War*, a classic work published in 1961 by renowned Oxford historian A.J.P. Taylor. As I described his conclusions in 2019:

Hitler's final demand, that 95% German Danzig be returned to Germany just as its inhabitants desired, was an absolutely reasonable one, and only a dreadful diplomatic blunder by the British had led the Poles to refuse the request, thereby provoking the war. The widespread later claim that Hitler sought to conquer the world was totally absurd, and the German leader had actually made every effort to avoid war with Britain or France. Indeed, he was generally quite friendly towards the Poles and had been hoping to enlist Poland as a German ally against the menace of Stalin's Soviet Union.



The recent 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the conflict that consumed so many tens of millions of lives naturally provoked numerous historical articles, and the resulting discussion led me to dig out my old copy of Taylor's short volume, which I reread for the first time in nearly forty years. I found it just as masterful and persuasive as I had back in my college dorm room days, and the glowing cover-blurbs suggested some of the immediate acclaim the work had received. *The Washington Post* lauded the author as "Britain's most prominent living historian," *World Politics* called it "Powerfully argued, brilliantly written, and always persuasive," *The New Statesman*, Britain leading leftist magazine, described it as "A masterpiece: lucid, compassionate, beautifully written," and the august *Times Literary Supplement* characterized it as "simple, devastating, superlatively readable, and deeply disturbing." As an international best-seller, it surely ranks as Taylor's most famous work, and I can easily understand why it was still on my college required reading list nearly two decades after its original publication.

> Yet in revisiting Taylor's ground-breaking study, I made a remarkable discovery. Despite all the international sales and critical acclaim, the book's findings soon aroused tremendous hostility in certain quarters. Taylor's lectures at Oxford had been enormously popular for a quarter century, but as a direct result of the controversy "Britain's most prominent living historian" was summarily purged from the faculty not long afterwards. At the beginning of his first chapter, **Taylor had noted how strange he found it that more than twenty years after the start of the world's most cataclysmic war no serious history had been produced carefully analyzing the outbreak.** Perhaps the retaliation that he encountered led him to better understand part of that puzzle.

Numerous other leading scholars and journalists, both contemporaneous and more recent, have come to very similar conclusions, but they too often suffered severe retaliation for their honest historical assessments. For decades William Henry Chamberlin had been one of America's most highly-regarded foreign policy journalists, but after he published *America's Second Crusade* in 1950, he vanished from most mainstream publications. David Irving quite possibly ranks as the most internationally successful British historian of the last 100 years, with his seminal books on World War II receiving enormous critical praise and selling in the millions; but he was driven into personal bankruptcy and narrowly avoided spending the rest of his life in an Austrian prison.

© Getty Images

Hitler Returning in Triumph to Berlin After Reunification with Austria

By the late 1930s Hitler had resurrected Germany, which had become newly prosperous under his rule, and he had also managed to reunite it with several separated German populations. As a result, he was widely recognized as one of the most successful and popular leaders in the world, and he hoped to finally settle the Polish border dispute, offering concessions far more generous than any of his democratically-elected Weimar predecessors had ever considered. But Poland's dictatorship instead spent months rejecting his attempts at negotiations and also began brutal mistreatment of its German minority, finally forcing Hitler into declaring war. And as I discussed in 2019, provoking that war may have been the deliberate goal of certain powerful figures.

> Perhaps the most obvious of these is the question of the true origins of the war, which laid waste to much of Europe,

killed perhaps fifty or sixty million, and gave rise to the subsequent Cold War era in which Communist regimes controlled half of the entire Eurasian world-continent. **Taylor, Irving, and numerous others have thoroughly debunked the ridiculous mythology that the cause lay in Hitler's mad desire for world conquest**, but if the German dictator clearly bore only minor responsibility, was there indeed any true culprit? Or did this massively-destructive world war come about in somewhat similar fashion to its predecessor, which our conventional histories treat as mostly due to a collection of blunders, misunderstandings, and thoughtless escalations?

During the 1930s, John T. Flynn was one of America's most influential progressive journalists, and although he had begun as a strong supporter of Roosevelt and his New Deal, he gradually became a sharp critic, concluding that FDR's various governmental schemes had failed to revive the American economy. Then in 1937 a new economic collapse spiked unemployment back to the same levels as when the president had first entered office, confirming Flynn in his harsh verdict. And as I wrote last year:

Indeed, **Flynn alleges that by late 1937, FDR had turned towards an aggressive foreign policy aimed at involving the country in a major foreign war, primarily because he believed that this was the only route out of his desperate economic and political box**, a stratagem not unknown among national leaders throughout history. In his January 5, 1938 *New Republic* column, he alerted his disbelieving readers to the looming prospect of a large naval military build-up and warfare on the horizon after **a top Roosevelt adviser had privately boasted to him that a large bout of "military Keynesianism" and a major war would cure the country's seemingly insurmountable economic problems.** At that time, war with Japan, possibly over Latin American interests, seemed

the intended goal, but **developing events in Europe soon persuaded FDR that fomenting a general war against Germany was the best course of action. Memoirs and other historical documents obtained by later researchers seem to generally support Flynn's accusations by indicating that Roosevelt ordered his diplomats to exert enormous pressure upon both the British and Polish governments to avoid any negotiated settlement with Germany, thereby leading to the outbreak of World War II in 1939.**

The last point is an important one since the confidential opinions of those closest to important historical events should be accorded considerable evidentiary weight. In a recent article John Wear mustered the **numerous contemporaneous assessments that implicated FDR as a pivotal figure in orchestrating the world war by his constant pressure upon the British political leadership**, a policy that he privately even admitted could mean his impeachment if revealed. Among other testimony, we have the statements of the Polish and British ambassadors to Washington and the American ambassador to London, who also passed along the concurring opinion of Prime Minister Chamberlain himself. Indeed, the German capture and publication of secret Polish diplomatic documents in 1939 had already revealed much of this information, and William Henry Chamberlin confirmed their authenticity in his 1950 book. But since the mainstream media never reported any of this information, these facts remain little known even today.

I discussed these historical events at great length in my 2019 article:

- American Pravda: Understanding World War II Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - September 23, 2019 - 20,500 Words

Question 2: The London "Blitz"

Germany launched the "Blitz" on England in order to terrorize the British people into submission. Do you agree with this or were there other factors involved which have been omitted in western history textbooks? (Like Churchill's bombing of Berlin?)

Ron Unz — Once again, this standard account of World War II is largely the opposite of the truth. In that era, the aerial bombardment of urban centers far behind military lines was illegal and considered a war crime, with **Hitler having absolutely no intention of attacking Britain's cities in that way.**

Indeed, the German leader had always had favorable views toward Britain and also believed that the preservation of the British Empire was in Germany's strategic interest since its collapse would create a geopolitical vacuum that might be filled by a rival power.

After Germany attacked Poland, Britain and France declared war. The Polish army was defeated in just a few weeks, and Hitler then offered to withdraw his forces from the Polish territories they had occupied and make peace, but the two Western powers vowed to continue the war until Germany was crushed. Little fighting occurred until spring of 1940 when the Germans finally attacked and defeated the huge French army, seizing Paris and knocking France out of the war.

The British forces were evacuated at Dunkirk and there's quite a lot of evidence that Hitler deliberately allowed them to escape as a face-saving gesture rather than ordering them captured. He followed his victory in France by offering extremely generous terms to the British government, making no demands against them and instead proposing a German alliance, including military support for protecting the security of their worldwide empire. Hitler naturally believed that they would accept such an attractive offer and end the war, which

he assumed was essentially over.

Several of the top British leaders seemed eager to make peace on Hitler's generous terms, and according to the evidence found by renowned British historian David Irving, Prime Minister Winston Churchill himself seemed willing to do so before changing his mind and pulling back. Churchill had spent decades seeking to become Prime Minister, and Irving plausibly argues he realized that losing a disastrous war within weeks of finally achieving that position would have rendered him a laughingstock in the history books.

Portrait of Winston Churchill by Yousuf Karsh, 1941

But given Britain's military defeat on the Continent and the very generous terms Hitler was offering, **Churchill faced a huge problem in persuading his country to continue a war that was widely regarded as lost. Therefore, he began ordering a series of bombing raids against the German capital, an illegal war crime, hoping to provoke a German response.** This led Hitler to repeatedly warn that if they continued bombing his cities, he would be forced to retaliate in kind, and he finally did so. Since the British public was unaware that their own government had initiated the campaign of urban bombing, they regarded those retaliatory German aerial attacks as monstrous, unprovoked war crimes, and just as Churchill had hoped, they became fully committed to continuing the war against Germany.

Irving and others explain all these important facts in their books, and a riveting Irving lecture summarizing his information is still available on Bitchute after having been purged from Youtube.

Comment: The Bitchute video may not be available in all regions.

Below is a screenshot of the cover from the video, by the uploader titled: **David Irving's discusses the true Winston Churchill in Toronto, Canada 1986.**

Video Link [Alternative link]

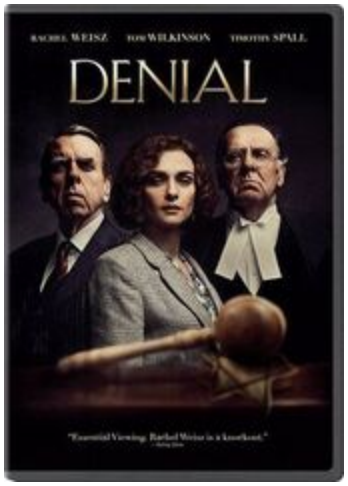
Irving is a crucial source for much important information on the war and in 2018 I explained why the results of a high-profile lawsuit against Deborah Lipstadt had demonstrated that his historical research was extremely reliable:

> These zealous ethnic-activists began a coordinated campaign to pressure Irving's prestigious publishers into dropping his books, while also disrupting his frequent international speaking tours and even lobbying countries to

bar him from entry. They maintained a drumbeat of media vilification, continually blackening his name and his research skills, even going so far as to denounce him as a "Nazi" and a "Hitler-lover," just as had similarly been done in the case of Prof. Wilson.

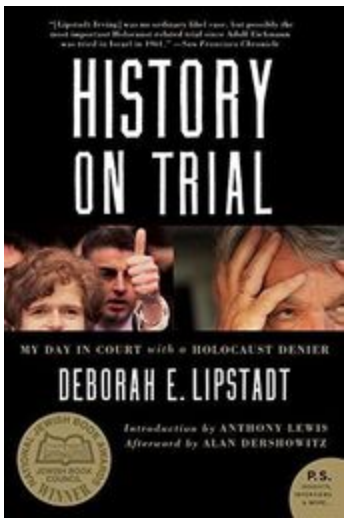
That legal battle was certainly a David-and-Goliath affair, with wealthy Jewish movie producers and corporate executives providing a huge war-chest of $13 million to Lipstadt's side, allowing her to fund a veritable army of 40 researchers and legal experts, captained by one of Britain's most successful Jewish divorce lawyers. By contrast, Irving, being an impecunious historian, was forced to defend himself without benefit of legal counsel.

In real life unlike in fable, the Goliaths of this world are almost invariably triumphant, and this case was no exception, with Irving being driven into personal bankruptcy, resulting in the loss of his fine central London home. But seen from the longer perspective of history, I think the victory of his tormentors was a remarkably Pyrrhic one.



Although the target of their unleashed hatred was Irving's alleged "Holocaust denial," as near as I can tell, that particular topic was almost entirely absent from all of Irving's dozens of books, and exactly that very silence was what had provoked their spittle-flecked outrage. Therefore, lacking such a clear target, their lavishly-funded corps of researchers and fact-checkers instead spent a year or more apparently performing a line-by-line and footnote-by-footnote review of everything Irving had ever published, seeking to locate every single historical

error that could possibly cast him in a bad professional light. With almost limitless money and manpower, they even utilized the process of legal discovery to subpoena and read the thousands of pages in his bound personal diaries and correspondence, thereby hoping to find some evidence of his "wicked thoughts." *Denial*, a 2016 Hollywood film co-written by Lipstadt, may provide a reasonable outline of the sequence of events as seen from her perspective.



© History on Trial

Yet despite such massive financial and human resources, they apparently came up almost entirely empty, at least if Lipstadt's triumphalist 2005 book *History on Trial* may be credited. Across four decades of research and writing, which had produced numerous controversial historical claims of the most astonishing nature, they only managed to find a couple of dozen rather minor alleged errors of fact or interpretation, most of these ambiguous or disputed. And the worst they discovered after reading every page of the many linear meters of Irving's personal diaries was that he had once composed a short "racially insensitive" ditty for his infant daughter, a trivial item which they naturally then trumpeted as proof that he was a "racist." Thus, they seemingly admitted that Irving's enormous corpus of historical texts was perhaps 99.9% accurate.

I think this silence of "the dog that didn't bark" echoes with thunderclap volume. I'm not aware of any other academic scholar in the entire history of the world who has had all his decades of lifetime work subjected to such painstakingly exhaustive hostile scrutiny. And since Irving apparently passed that test with such flying colors, I think we can

> regard almost every astonishing claim in all of his books — as recapitulated in his videos — as absolutely accurate.

- The Remarkable Historiography of David Irving Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - June 4, 2018 - 1,700 Words

Question 3: The Purge of Antiwar Intellectuals

In the 1940s, there was a purge of antiwar intellectuals and pundits similar to the purge of critics of US policy in social media today. Can you briefly explain what happened, who was targeted, and whether the first amendment should apply in times of national crisis?

Ron Unz — Around 2000, I began a project to digitize the archives of **many of our leading publications of the last 150 years and I was astonished to discover that some of our most influential figures from the years prior to World War II had been "disappeared"** so completely that I'd never heard of them. This played a major role in **my growing suspicions that the standard narrative I'd always accepted was false**, and I later described the situation using the analogy of the notorious historical lies of the old Soviet Union:

> I sometimes imagined myself a little like an earnest young Soviet researcher of the 1970s who began digging into the musty files of long-forgotten Kremlin archives and made some stunning discoveries. Trotsky was apparently not the notorious Nazi spy and traitor portrayed in all the textbooks, but instead had been the right-hand man of the sainted Lenin himself during the glorious days of the great Bolshevik Revolution, and for some years afterward had remained in the topmost ranks of the Party elite. And who were these other figures — Zinoviev, Kamenev, Bukharin, Rykov — who also spent those early years at the very top of the Communist hierarchy? In history courses, they had barely rated a few mentions, as minor Capitalist agents who were quickly unmasked and paid for their treachery with

their lives. How could the great Lenin, father of the Revolution, have been such an idiot to have surrounded himself almost exclusively with traitors and spies?

But unlike their Stalinist analogs from a couple of years earlier, the American victims who disappeared around 1940 were neither shot nor Gulaged, but merely excluded from the mainstream media that defines our reality, thereby being blotted out from our memory so that future generations gradually forgot that they had ever lived.

A leading example of such a "disappeared" American was journalist **John T. Flynn**, probably almost unknown today but whose stature had once been enormous. As **I wrote** last year: So imagine my surprise at discovering that throughout the 1930s he had been one of the single most influential *liberal* voices in American society, a writer on economics and politics whose status may have roughly approximated that of Paul Krugman, though with a strong muck-raking tinge. His weekly column in *The New Republic* allowed him to serve as a lodestar for America's progressive elites, while his regular appearances in *Colliers*, an illustrated mass circulation weekly reaching many millions of Americans, provided him a platform comparable to that of an major television personality in the later heyday of network TV.

To some extent, Flynn's prominence may be objectively quantified. A few years ago, I happened to mention his name to a well-read and committed liberal born in the 1930s, and she unsurprisingly drew a complete blank, but wondered if he might have been a little like **Walter Lippmann**, the very famous columnist of that era. When I

checked, I saw that across the hundreds of periodicals in my archiving system, there were just 23 articles by Lippmann from the 1930s but fully 489 by Flynn.

An even stronger American parallel to Taylor was that of historian Harry Elmer Barnes, a figure almost unknown to me, but in his day an academic of great influence and stature:

Imagine my shock at later discovering that **Barnes** had actually been one of the most frequent early contributors to *Foreign Affairs*, serving as a primary book reviewer for that venerable publication from its 1922 founding onward, while his stature as one of America's premier liberal academics was indicated by his scores of appearances in *The Nation* and *The New Republic* throughout that decade. Indeed, he is credited with having played a central role in "revising" the history of the First World War so as to remove the cartoonish picture of unspeakable German wickedness left behind as a legacy of the dishonest wartime propaganda produced by the opposing British and American governments. And his professional stature was demonstrated by his thirty-five or more books, many of them influential academic volumes, along with his numerous articles in *The American Historical Review*, *Political Science Quarterly*, and other leading journals.

A few years ago I happened to mention Barnes to an eminent American academic scholar whose general focus in political science and foreign policy was quite similar, and yet the name meant nothing. By the end of the 1930s,

Barnes had become a leading critic of America's proposed involvement in World War II, and was permanently "disappeared" as a consequence, barred from all mainstream media outlets, while a major newspaper chain was heavily pressured into abruptly terminating his long-running syndicated national column in May 1940.

Many of Barnes' friends and allies fell in the same ideological purge, which he described in his own writings and which continued after the end of the war:

Over a dozen years after his disappearance from our national media, Barnes managed to publish ***Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace***, a lengthy collection of essays by scholars and other experts discussing the circumstances surrounding America's entrance into World War II, and have it produced and distributed by a small printer in Idaho. His own contribution was a 30,000 word essay entitled **"Revisionism and the Historical Blackout"** and discussed the tremendous obstacles faced by the dissident thinkers of that period.

The book itself was dedicated to the memory of his friend, historian **Charles A. Beard**. Since the early years of the 20th century, Beard had ranked as an intellectual figure of the greatest stature and influence, co-founder of The New School in New York and serving terms as president of both The American Historical Association and The American Political Science Association. As a leading supporter of the New Deal economic policies, he was overwhelmingly lauded for his views.

Yet once he turned against Roosevelt's bellicose foreign policy, publishers shut their doors to him, and only his personal friendship with the head of the Yale University Press allowed his critical 1948 volume *President Roosevelt and the Coming of the War, 1941* to even appear in print.

Beard's stellar reputation seems to have begun a rapid decline from that point onward, so that by 1968 historian Richard Hofstadter **could write**: "Today Beard's reputation stands like an imposing ruin in the landscape of American historiography. What was once the grandest house in the province is now a ravaged survival". Indeed, Beard's once-dominant "economic interpretation of history" might these days almost be dismissed as promoting "dangerous conspiracy theories," and I suspect few non-historians have even heard of him.

Another major contributor to the Barnes volume was **William Henry Chamberlin**, who for decades had been ranked among America's leading foreign policy journalists, with more than 15 books to his credit, most of them widely and favorably reviewed. Yet ***America's Second Crusade***, his critical 1950 analysis of America's entry into World War II, failed to find a mainstream publisher, and when it did appear was widely ignored by reviewers. Prior to its publication, his byline had regularly run in our most influential national magazines such as *The Atlantic Monthly* and *Harpers*. But afterward, his writing was almost entirely confined to small circulation newsletters and periodicals, appealing to narrow conservative or libertarian audiences.

In these days of the Internet, anyone can easily establish a website to publish his views, thus making them immediately available to everyone in the world. Social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter can bring interesting or controversial material to the attention of millions with just a couple of mouse-clicks, completely bypassing the need for the support of establishmentarian intermediaries. It is easy for us to forget just how extremely challenging the dissemination of dissenting ideas remained back in the days of print, paper, and ink, and recognize that an individual purged from his regular outlet might require many

> years to regain any significant foothold for the distribution of his work.

I'd written those last words in June 2018 and ironically enough, sweeping social media purges and shadow-banning soon engulfed many present-day dissenters, greatly reducing their ability to distribute their ideas.

- American Pravda: Our Great Purge of the 1940s Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - June 11, 2018 - 5,500 Words

Question 4: Postwar Germany

Most Americans believe that the German people were treated humanely following the end of hostilities and that the Marshall Plan helped to rebuild Europe. Is that an accurate account of what actually took place? (Freda Utley)

Ron Unz — Although long forgotten today, **Freda Utley** was a mid-century journalist of some prominence. Born an Englishwoman, she had married a Jewish Communist and moved to Soviet Russia, then fled to America after her husband fell in one of Stalin's purges. Although hardly sympathetic to the defeated Nazis, she **strongly shared Beaty's view of the monstrous perversion of justice at Nuremberg and her first-hand account of the months spent in Occupied Germany is eye-opening in its description of the horrific suffering imposed upon the prostrate civilian population even years after the end of the war.**

> In 1948 she spent several months traveling around Occupied Germany, and the following year published her experiences in *The High Cost of Vengeance*, which I found eye-opening. Unlike the vast majority of other American

journalists, who generally took brief, heavily-chaperoned visits, Utley actually spoke German and was quite familiar with the country, having frequently visited it during the Weimar Era. Whereas Grenfell's discussion was highly restrained and almost academic in its tone, her own writing was considerably more strident and emotional, hardly surprising given her direct encounter with extremely distressing subject matter. Her eyewitness testimony seemed quite credible, and the factual information she provided, buttressed by numerous interviews and anecdotal observations, was gripping.

More than three years after the end of hostilities, Utley encountered a land still almost totally ruined, with large portions of the population forced to seek shelter in damaged basements or share tiny rooms in broken buildings. The population regarded itself as being "without rights," often subject to arbitrary treatment by occupation troops or other privileged elements, who stood completely outside the legal jurisdiction of the regular local police. Germans in large numbers were regularly removed from their homes, which were used to billet American troops or others who found favor with them, a situation that had been noted with some outrage in Gen. George Patton's posthumously published diaries. Even at this point, a foreign soldier might still sometimes seize anything he wanted from German civilians, with potentially dangerous consequences if they protested the theft. **Utley tellingly quotes a former German soldier who had served occupation duties in France and remarked that he and his comrades had operated under strictest discipline and could never have imagined behaving toward French civilians in the manner that current Allied troops now treated German ones.**

Some of Utley's quoted claims are quite astonishing, but seem solidly based on reputable sources and fully

confirmed elsewhere. Throughout the first three years of peacetime, the daily food ration allocated to Germany's entire civilian population was roughly 1550 calories, approximately the same as that provided to the inmates of German concentration camps during the war recently ended, and it sometimes dropped far, far lower. **During the difficult winter of 1946-47, the entire population of the Ruhr, Germany's industrial heartland, had only received starvation rations of 700-800 calories per day, and even lower levels were sometimes reached.**

Influenced by hostile official propaganda, the widespread attitude of Allied personnel towards ordinary Germans was certainly as bad as anything faced by the natives living under a European colonial regime. Time and again, Utley notes the remarkable parallels with the treatment and attitude she had previously seen Westerners take towards the native Chinese during most of the 1930s, or that the British had expressed to their Indian colonial subjects. Small German boys, shoeless, destitute, and hungry, eagerly retrieved balls at American sporting-clubs for a tiny pittance. Today it is sometimes disputed whether American cities during the late 19th century actually contained signs reading "No Irish Need Apply," but Utley certainly saw signs reading "No Dogs or Germans Allowed" outside numerous establishments frequented by Allied personnel.

Based on my standard history textbooks, I had always believed that there existed a total night-and-day difference in the behavior toward local civilians between the German troops who occupied France from 1940-44 and the Allied troops who occupied Germany from 1945 onward. After reading the detailed accounts of Utley and other contemporaneous sources, I think my opinion was absolutely correct, but with the direction reversed.

Utley believed part of the reason for this utterly disastrous

situation was deliberate American government policy. Although the Morgenthau Plan — aimed at eliminating half or so of Germany's population — had been officially abandoned and replaced with the Marshall Plan promoting German revival, she found that many aspects of the former actually still held sway in practice. Even as late as 1948, **huge portions of the German industrial base continued to be dismantled and shipped off to other countries while very tight restrictions on German production and exports remained in place. Indeed, the level of poverty, misery, and oppression she saw everywhere almost seemed deliberately calculated to turn ordinary Germans against America and its Western allies**, perhaps opening the door to Communist sympathies. Such suspicions are certainly strengthened when we consider that this system had been devised by Harry Dexter White, later revealed to be a Soviet agent.

She was especially scathing about the total perversion of any basic notions of human justice during **the Nuremberg Tribunal** and various other war crime trials, a subject to which she devoted two full chapters. These judicial proceedings exhibited the worst sort of legal double-standards, with leading Allied judges explicitly stating that their own countries were not at all bound by the same international legal conventions which they claimed to be enforcing against German defendants. Even more shocking were some of the measures used, with outraged American jurists and journalists revealing that **horrific torture, threats, blackmail, and other entirely illegitimate means were regularly employed to obtain confessions or denunciations of others, a situation that strongly suggested a very considerable number of those condemned and hanged were entirely innocent.**

Her book also gave substantial coverage to **the organized expulsions of ethnic Germans from Silesia, the**

Sudatenland, East Prussia, and various other parts of Central and Eastern Europe where they had peacefully lived for many centuries, with the total number of such expellees generally estimated at 13 to 15 million. Families were sometimes given as little as ten minutes to leave the homes in which they had resided for a century or more, then forced to march off on foot, sometimes for hundreds of miles, towards a distant land they had never seen, with their only possessions being what they could carry in their own hands. In some cases, any surviving menfolk were separated out and shipped off to slave-labor camps, thereby producing an exodus consisting solely of women, children, and the very elderly. **All estimates were that at least a couple million perished along the way, from hunger, illness, or exposure.**

These days we endlessly read painful discussions of the notorious "Trail of Tears" suffered by the Cherokees in the distant past of the early 19th century, but this rather similar 20th Century event was nearly a thousand-fold larger in size. Despite this huge discrepancy in magnitude and far greater distance in time, I would guess that the former event may command a thousand times the public awareness among ordinary Americans. If so, this would demonstrate that overwhelming media control can easily shift perceived reality by a factor of a million or more.

The population movement certainly seems to have represented **the largest ethnic-cleansing in the history of the world**, and if the Germany had ever done anything even remotely similar during its years of European victories and conquests, the visually-gripping scenes of such an enormous flood of desperate, trudging refugees would surely have become a centerpiece of numerous World War II movies of the last seventy years. But since nothing like

that ever happened, Hollywood screenwriters lost a tremendous opportunity.

- The High Cost of Vengeance Freda Utley - 1949 - 125,000 Words

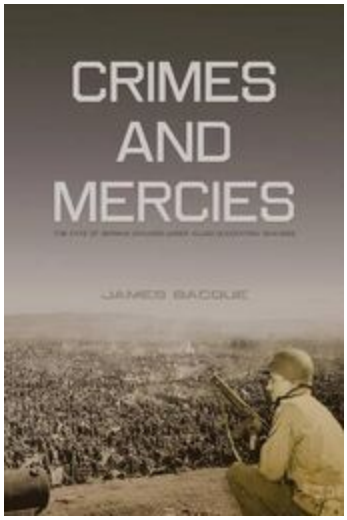
Utley's extremely grim portrayal is strongly corroborated by numerous other sources. In 1946, Victor Gollanz, a prominent British publisher from a Socialistic Jewish background, took an extended visit to Germany, and published *In Darkest Germany* the following year, recounting his enormous horror at the conditions he discovered there. His claims of **the appalling malnutrition, illness, and total destitution were supported by over a hundred chilling photographs**, and the introduction to the American edition was written by University of Chicago President Robert M. Hutchins, one of our most reputable public intellectuals of that era. But his slim volume seems to have attracted relatively little attention in the American mainstream media, although his somewhat similar book *Our Threatened Values*, published the previous year and based upon information from official sources had received a little more. *Gruesome Harvest* by Ralph Franklin Keeling, also published in 1947, helpfully gathers together a large number of official statements and reports from major media outlets, which generally support exactly this same picture of the first few years of Germany under Allied occupation.

During the 1970s and 1980s this distressing topic was taken up by Alfred M. de Zayas, who held a Harvard Law degree and doctorate in history, and served a long and illustrious career as a leading international human rights lawyer long affiliated with the United Nations. **His books such as *Nemesis at Potsdam*, *A Terrible Revenge*, and *The Wehrmacht War Crimes Bureau, 1939-1945* especially focused on the massive ethnic cleansing of the German minorities**, and were based on great

quantities of archival research. They received considerable scholarly praise and notice in major academic journals and sold hundreds of thousands of copies in Germany and other parts of Europe, but hardly seem to have penetrated the consciousness of America or the rest of the English-speaking world.

In the late 1980s this smoldering historical debate took a remarkable new turn. While visiting France during 1986 in preparation for an unrelated book, **a Canadian writer named James Bacque** stumbled upon clues suggesting that one of the most terrible secrets of post-war Germany had long remained completely hidden, and he soon embarked upon extensive research into the subject, finally publishing *Other Losses* in 1989. Based upon very considerable evidence, including government records, personal interviews, and recorded eyewitness testimony, **he argued that after the end of the war, the Americans had starved to death as many as a million German POWs, seemingly as a deliberate act of policy, a war crime that would surely rank among the greatest in history.**

Bacque's discussion of the new evidence of the Kremlin archives constitutes a relatively small portion of his 1997 sequel, *Crimes and Mercies*, which centered around an even more explosive analysis, and also became an international best-seller.



As described above, first-hand observers of post-war Germany in 1947 and 1948 such as Gollanz and Utley, had directly reported on the horrific conditions they discovered, and **stated that for years official food rations for the entire population had been comparable to that of the inmates of Nazi**

concentration camps and sometimes far lower, leading to the widespread malnutrition and illness they witnessed all around them. They also noted the destruction of most of Germany's pre-war housing stock and the severe overcrowding produced by the influx of so many millions of pitiful ethnic German refugees expelled from other parts of Central and Eastern Europe. But these visitors lacked any access to solid population statistics, and could only speculate upon the enormous human death toll that hunger and illness had already inflicted, and which would surely continue if policies were not quickly changed.

Years of archival research by Bacque attempt to answer this question, and the conclusion he provides is certainly not a pleasant one. Both the Allied military government and the later German civilian authorities seem to have made a concerted effort to hide or obscure the true scale of the calamity visited upon German civilians during the years 1945-1950, and the official mortality statistics found in government reports are simply too fantastical to possibly be correct, although they became the basis for the subsequent histories of that period. Bacque notes that these figures suggest that the death rate during the terrible conditions of 1947, long remembered as the "Hunger Year" (*Hungerjahr*) and vividly described in Gollancz's account, was actually lower than that of the prosperous Germany of the late 1960s. Furthermore, private reports by American officials, mortality rates from individual localities, and other strong evidence demonstrate that these long-accepted aggregate numbers were essentially fictional.

Instead, Bacque attempts to provide more realistic estimates based upon an examination of the population totals of the various German censuses together with the recorded influx of the huge number of German refugees. **Applying this simple analysis, he makes a reasonably strong case that the excess German deaths during that**

period amounted to at least around 10 million, and possibly many millions more. Furthermore, he provides substantial evidence that the starvation was either deliberate or at least enormously worsened by American government resistance to overseas food relief efforts. Perhaps these numbers should not be so totally surprising given that the official Morgenthau Plan had envisioned the elimination of around 20 million Germans, and as Bacque demonstrates, top American leaders quietly agreed to continue that policy in practice even while they renounced it in theory.

Assuming these numbers are even remotely correct, the implications are quite remarkable. **The toll of the human catastrophe experienced in post-war Germany would certainly rank among the greatest in modern peacetime history, far exceeding the deaths that occurred during the Ukrainian Famine of the early 1930s and possibly even approaching the wholly unintentional losses during Mao's Great Leap Forward of 1959-61.** Furthermore, the post-war German losses would vastly outrank either of these other unfortunate events in percentage terms and this would remain true even if the Bacque's estimates are considerably reduced. Yet I doubt if even a small fraction of one percent of Americans are today aware of this enormous human calamity. Presumably memories are much stronger in Germany itself, but given the growing legal crackdown on discordant views in that unfortunate country, I suspect that anyone who discusses the topic too energetically risks immediate imprisonment.

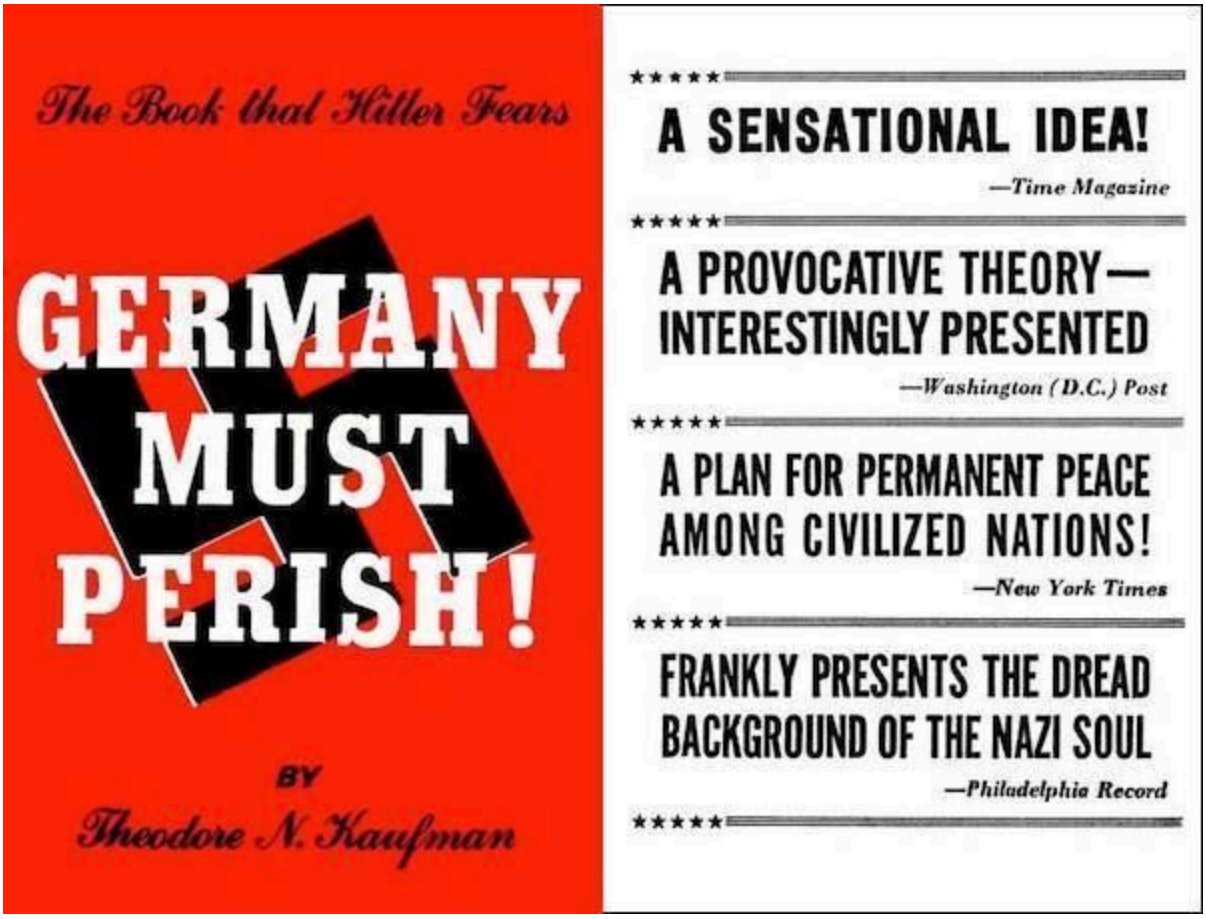
To a considerable extent, this historical ignorance has been heavily fostered by our governments, often using underhanded or even nefarious means. Just like in the old decaying USSR, **much of the current political legitimacy of today's American government and its various European vassal-states is founded upon a particular**

narrative history of World War II, and challenging that account might have dire political consequences. Bacque credibly relates some of the apparent efforts to dissuade any major newspaper or magazine from running articles discussing the startling findings of his first book, thereby imposing a "blackout" aimed at absolutely minimizing any media coverage. Such measures seem to have been quite effective, since until eight or nine years ago, I'm not sure I had ever heard a word of these shocking ideas, and I have certainly never seen them seriously discussed in any of the numerous newspapers or magazines that I have carefully read over the last three decades.

In assessing the political factors that apparently produced such an enormous and seemingly deliberate death toll among German civilians long after the fighting had ended, an important point should be made. Historians seeking to demonstrate Hitler's tremendous wickedness or to suggest his knowledge of various crimes committed during the course of the Second World War are regularly forced to sift tens of thousands of his printed words for a suggestive phrase here and there, and then interpret these vague allusions as absolutely conclusive declarative statements. Those who fail to stretch the words to fit, such as renowned British historian David Irving, will sometimes see their careers destroyed as a consequence.

But as early as 1940, an American Jew named **Theodore Kaufman became so enraged at what he regarded as Hitler's mistreatment of German Jewry that he published a short book evocatively entitled *Germany Must Perish!*, in which he explicitly proposed the total extermination of the German people.** And that book apparently received favorable if perhaps not entirely serious discussion in many of our most prestigious media outlets, including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and

Time Magazine. If such sentiments were being freely expressed in certain quarters even before America's actual entrance into the military conflict, then perhaps the long-hidden policies that Bacque seems to have uncovered should not be so totally shocking to us.



- American Pravda: Post-War France and Post-War Germany
  Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - July 9, 2018 - 6,600 Words

Question 5: The Pearl Harbor Attack

Was Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor unexpected or was it preceded by numerous US provocations that compelled Japan to respond militarily?

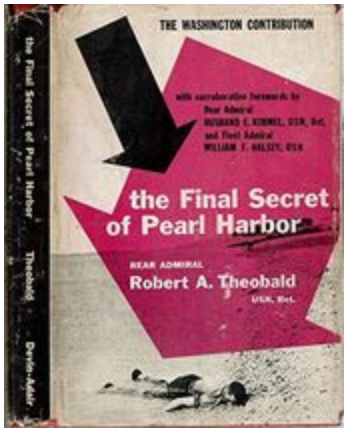
Ron Unz — On December 7, 1941, Japan's military forces launched a surprise attack against our Pacific Fleet based at Pearl

Harbor, sinking many of our largest warships and killing more than 2,400 Americans. As a result, America was suddenly propelled into World War II and that date "lived in infamy" as one of the most famous in our national history.

At the time, **nearly all ordinary Americans regarded the Japanese attack as a shocking, unprovoked bolt-from-the-blue, and for more than 80 years, our mainstream history books and media coverage have reinforced that strong impression.** But as I explained in 2019, the actual facts are entirely different:

> **From 1940 onward, FDR had been making a great political effort to directly involve America in the war against Germany, but public opinion was overwhelmingly on the other side, with polls showing that up to 80% of the population were opposed.** All of this immediately changed once the Japanese bombs dropped on Hawaii, and suddenly the country was at war.
>
> Given these facts, there were natural suspicions that **Roosevelt had deliberately provoked the attack by his executive decisions to freeze Japanese assets, embargo all shipments of vital fuel oil supplies, and rebuff the repeated requests by Tokyo leaders for negotiations.** In the 1953 volume edited by Barnes, noted diplomatic historian Charles Tansill summarized his very strong case that **FDR sought to use a Japanese attack as his best "back door to war" against Germany**, an argument he had made the previous year in a book of that same name. Over the decades, the information contained in private diaries and government documents seems to have almost conclusively established this interpretation, with Secretary of War Henry Stimson indicating that **the plan was to "maneuver [Japan] into firing the first shot"...**
>
> By 1941 the U.S. had broken all the Japanese diplomatic

codes and was freely reading their secret communications. Therefore, there has also long existed **the widespread if disputed belief that the president was well aware of the planned Japanese attack on our fleet and deliberately failed to warn his local commanders, thereby ensuring that the resulting heavy American losses would produce a vengeful nation united for war.** Tansill and a former chief researcher for the Congressional investigating committee made this case in the same 1953 Barnes volume, and the following year a former US admiral published *The Final Secret of Pearl Harbor*, providing similar arguments at greater length. This book also included an introduction by one of America's highest-ranking World War II naval commanders, who fully endorsed the controversial theory.



In 2000, journalist Robert M. Stinnett published a wealth of additional supporting evidence, based upon his eight years of archival research, which was discussed in a recent article. A telling point made by Stinnett is that **if Washington had warned the Pearl Harbor commanders, their resulting defensive preparations would have been noticed by the local Japanese spies and relayed to the approaching task force; and with the element of surprise lost, the attack probably would have been aborted**, thus frustrating all of FDR's long-standing plans for war. Although various details may be disputed, I find the evidence for Roosevelt's foreknowledge quite compelling.

Last year I further extended these arguments:

This historical reconstruction is strongly supported by much additional material. During this period, Prof. Revilo P. Oliver

had held a senior position in Military Intelligence, and when he published his memoirs four decades later, he claimed that FDR had deliberately tricked the Japanese into attacking Pearl Harbor. Knowing that Japan had broken Portugal's diplomatic codes, FDR informed the latter country's ambassador of his plans to wait until the Japanese had over-extended themselves, then order the Pacific Fleet to launch a devastating surprise attack against their home islands. According to Oliver, **Japan's subsequent diplomatic cables revealed they had successfully been convinced that FDR planned to suddenly attack them.**

Indeed, just a couple of months before Pearl Harbor, *Argosy Weekly*, one of America's most popular magazines, carried a fictional cover story describing exactly such a devastating surprise attack on Tokyo in retaliation for a naval incident, with the powerful bombers of our Pacific Fleet inflicting huge damage upon the unprepared Japanese capital. I wonder whether the Roosevelt Administration didn't have a hand in getting that story published.

As early as May 1940, FDR had ordered the Pacific Fleet relocated from its San Diego home port to Pearl Harbor in

Hawaii, a decision strongly opposed as unnecessarily provocative and dangerous by James Richardson, its commanding admiral, who was fired as a result. Moreover:

There was also a very strange domestic incident that immediately followed the Pearl Harbor attack, one which seems to have attracted far too little interest. In that era, films were the most powerful popular media, and although Gentiles constituted 97% of the population, they controlled only one of the major studios; perhaps coincidentally, Walt Disney was also the only high-ranking Hollywood figure perched squarely within the anti-war camp. And the day after the surprise Japanese attack, hundreds of U.S. troops seized control of Disney Studios, allegedly in order to help defend California from Japanese forces located thousands of miles away, with the military occupation continuing for the next eight months. Consider what suspicious minds might have thought if on September 12, 2001, President Bush had immediately ordered his military to seize the CBS network offices, claiming that such a step was necessary to help protect New York City against further Islamicist attacks.

Pearl Harbor was bombed on a Sunday and unless FDR and his top aides were fully aware of the pending Japanese assault, they surely would have been totally preoccupied with the aftermath of the disaster. It seems highly unlikely that the U.S. military would have been ready to seize control of Disney studios early Monday morning following an actual "surprise" attack.

Question 6: Operation Pike

Did England and France plan to attack Russia prior to Hitler's invasion of that country?

Ron Unz — For more than eighty years, one of the single most

crucial turning points of World War II has been omitted from nearly every Western history written about that conflict and as a result, virtually no educated Americans are even aware of it.

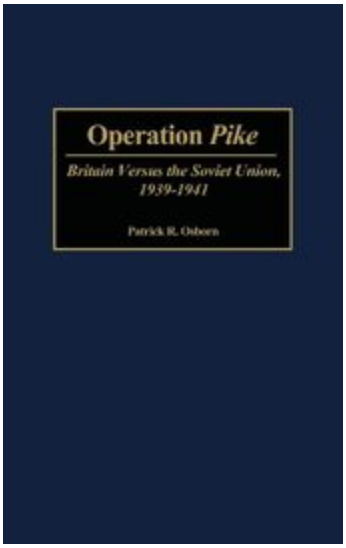
It is an undeniable, documented fact that just a few months after the war began, the Western Allies — Britain and France — decided to attack the neutral Soviet Union, which they regarded as militarily weak and a crucial supplier of natural resources for Hitler's war machine. Based upon their experience in World War I, the Allied leadership believed that there was little chance of any military breakthrough on the Western front, so they felt that their best chance of overcoming Germany was by defeating Germany's Soviet quasi-ally.

However, the reality was entirely different. The USSR was vastly stronger than they realized at the time and it was ultimately responsible for destroying 80% of Germany's military formations, with America and the other Allies only accounting for the remaining 20%. Therefore, **a 1940 Allied attack on the Soviets would have brought them directly into the war as Hitler's full military ally, and the combination of Germany's industrial strength and Russia's natural resources would have been nearly invincible, almost certainly reversing the outcome of the war.**

From the earliest days of the Bolshevik Revolution, the Allies had been intensely hostile to the Soviet Union and became even more so after Stalin attacked Finland in late 1939. That Winter War went badly as the heavily outnumbered Finns very effectively resisted the Soviet forces leading to an Allied plan to send several divisions to fight alongside the Finns. According to Sean McMeekin's ground-breaking 2021 book *Stalin's War*, the Soviet dictator became aware of this dangerous military threat, and his concerns over looming Allied intervention persuaded him to quickly settle the war with Finland on relatively generous terms.

Despite this, **the Allied plans to attack the USSR continued, now shifting to Operation Pike, the idea of using their bomber**

squadrons based in Syria and Iraq to destroy the Baku oilfields in the Soviet Caucasus, while also trying to enlist Turkey and Iran into their planned attack against Stalin. By this date, Soviet agriculture had become heavily mechanized and dependent upon oil, and Allied strategists believed that the successful destruction of the Soviet oilfields would eliminate much of that country's fuel supply, thereby possibly producing a famine that might bring down the distasteful Communist regime.



Yet virtually all of these Allied assumptions were completely incorrect. Only a small fraction of Germany's oil came from the Soviets, so its elimination would have little impact upon the German war effort. As subsequent events soon proved, the USSR was enormously strong in military terms rather than weak. The Allies believed that just a few weeks of attacks by dozens of existing bombers would totally devastate the oil fields, but later in the war vastly larger aerial attacks had only limited impact upon oil production elsewhere.

Successful or not, **the planned Allied attack against the USSR would have represented the largest strategic bombing offensive in world history to that date, and it had been scheduled and rescheduled during the early months of 1940, only finally abandoned after Germany's armies crossed the French border**, surrounded and defeated the Allied ground forces, and knocked France out of the war.

The victorious Germans were fortunate enough to capture all the secret documents regarding Operation Pike, and they achieved a major propaganda coup by publishing them in facsimile and translation, so that all knowledgeable individuals soon knew that the Allies had been on the verge of attacking the Soviets. This missing

fact helps to explain why Stalin remained so distrustful of Churchill's diplomatic efforts prior to the Hitler's Barbarossa attack a year later.

However, for more than three generations the remarkable story of how the Allies came so close to losing the war by attacking the USSR has been totally excluded from virtually all Western histories. Therefore, when I discovered these facts in the 1952 memoirs of Sisley Huddleston, a leading Anglo-French journalist, I initially assumed he must have been delusional:

> The notion that the Allies were preparing to launch a major bombing offensive against the Soviet Union just a few months after the outbreak of World War II was obviously absurd, so ridiculous a notion that not a hint of that long-debunked rumor had ever gotten into the standard history texts I had read on the European conflict. But for Huddleston to have still clung to such nonsensical beliefs even several years after the end of the war raised large questions about his gullibility or even his sanity. I wondered whether I could trust even a single word he said about anything else.
>
> However, not long afterward I encountered quite a surprise

in a 2017 article published in *The National Interest*, an eminently respectable periodical. The short piece carried the descriptive headline "In the Early Days of World War II, Britain and France Planned to Bomb Russia." The contents absolutely flabbergasted me, and with Huddleston's credibility now fully established — and the credibility of my standard history textbooks equally demolished — I went ahead and substantially drew upon his account for my long article "American Pravda: Post-War France and Post-War Germany."

If all our World War II history books can exclude a fully-documented story of such enormous importance, they obviously cannot be trusted about anything else.

- American Pravda: How Hitler Saved the Allies Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - May 13, 2019 - 8,300 Words

Question 7: The Holocaust

What is the truth about the Holocaust? You have apparently done a fair amount of research on the topic and may have an opinion about what actually took place. Can we say with certainty how many Jews were killed or verify the manner in which they were killed? In your opinion, do the historical facts about the Holocaust align the narrative that is backed by powerful Jewish organizations or are there major discrepancies?

Ron Unz — For most Americans and other Westerners, the Jewish Holocaust ranks as one of the most important and monumental events of the twentieth century, probably today greater in its visibility than any other aspect of World War II, during which it occurred.

The mere mention of the iconic number of "Six Million" is immediately understood, and in recent decades many Western countries have legally protected the status of that particular historical event by mandating stiff fines or prison sentences

for anyone who disputes or minimizes it, the modern equivalent of old-fashioned blasphemy laws.

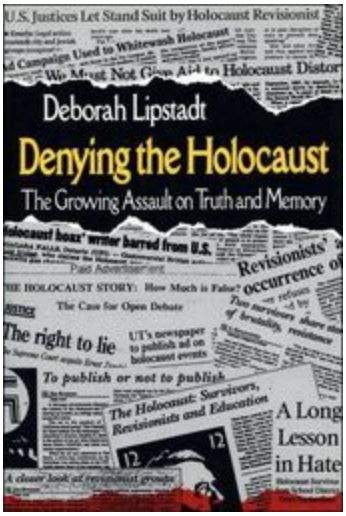
As someone who was educated in the American school system and then spent a lifetime absorbing information from our media and popular culture, I'd certainly always been aware of the Holocaust, though I'd never had much explored its details. With the growth of the Internet over the last couple of decades, I'd occasionally come across individuals who challenged that narrative, but the world is filled with all sorts of cranks and crackpots, and I usually didn't pay much attention to their arguments.

Then eight or nine years ago, a major controversy erupted regarding *Reason* magazine, the flagship publication of the libertarian movement. Apparently during the mid-1970s, *Reason* had actively published and promoted the work of America's leading Holocaust Deniers, a rather shocking revelation. During the 1990s I'd become a little friendly with the *Reason* people and although they could sometimes be dogmatic on certain ideological issues, they otherwise seemed rather sensible. I couldn't understand why they would have denied the reality of the Holocaust, especially since so many of them were themselves Jewish. So later when I had some time, I decided to investigate the controversy more carefully.

Most of the articles by Holocaust Deniers that *Reason* published had actually dealt with other historical controversies, but all these pieces seemed extremely solid and well-done. So I decided to read the books by Deborah Lipstadt, one of the world's foremost critics of Holocaust Denial, who had been heavily quoted in the articles attacking *Reason*. Lipstadt's name was already slightly familiar to me from her rancorous late 1990s legal battle against British historian David Irving.

In reading Lipstadt's books, **I was very surprised to discover that during the Second World War itself, few mainstream individuals in the political or media worlds had apparently**

believed in the reality of the ongoing Holocaust, mostly regarding the widespread stories being promoted by Jewish activists and Allied governments as merely dishonest wartime propaganda, much like the ridiculous World War I atrocity stories of Germans raping Belgian nuns or eating Belgian children. And indeed, many of the Holocaust stories Lipstadt condemns the media for ignoring were totally ridiculous, such as the Germans killing over a million Jews by individually injecting them in the heart with a poison compound. As I wrote:



> Lipstadt entitled her first book "Beyond Belief," and I think that all of us can agree that the historical event she and so many others in academia and Hollywood have made the centerpiece of their lives and careers is certainly one of the most extremely remarkable occurrences in all of human history. Indeed, perhaps only a Martian Invasion would have been more worthy of historical study, but Orson Welles's famous War of the Worlds radio-play which terrified so many millions of Americans in 1938 turned out to be a hoax rather than real.
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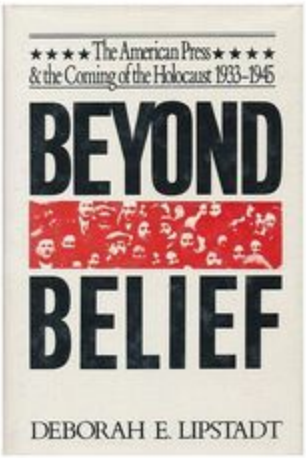
> 
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> The six million Jews who died in the Holocaust certainly constituted a very substantial fraction of all the wartime casualties in the European Theater, outnumbering by a factor of 100 all the British who died during the Blitz, and being dozens of times more numerous than all the Americans who fell there in battle. Furthermore, the sheer monstrosity of the crime against innocent civilians would surely have provided the best possible justification for the

Allied war effort. Yet for many, many years after the war, a very strange sort of amnesia seems to have gripped most of the leading political protagonists in that regard.

Robert Faurisson, a French academic who became a prominent Holocaust Denier in the 1970s, once made an extremely interesting observation regarding the memoirs of Eisenhower, Churchill, and De Gaulle:

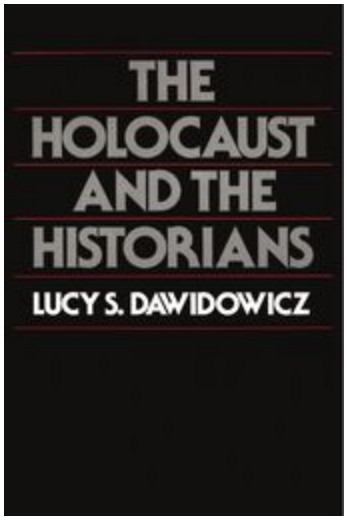
Three of the best known works on the Second World War are General Eisenhower's* Crusade in Europe *(New York: Doubleday [Country Life Press], 1948), Winston Churchill's* The Second World War *(London: Cassell, 6 vols., 1948-1954), and the* Mémoires de guerre *of General de Gaulle (Paris: Plon, 3 vols., 1954-1959). In these three works not the least mention of Nazi gas chambers is to be found.

Eisenhower's Crusade in Europe *is a book of 559 pages; the six volumes of Churchill's* Second World War *total 4,448 pages; and de Gaulle's three-volume* Mémoires de guerre *is 2,054 pages. In this mass of writing, which altogether totals 7,061 pages (not including the introductory parts), published from 1948 to 1959, one will find no mention either of Nazi "gas chambers," a "genocide" of the Jews, or of "six million" Jewish victims of the war.*

Given that the Holocaust would reasonably rank as the single most remarkable episode of the Second World War, such striking omissions must almost force us to place Eisenhower, Churchill, and De Gaulle among the ranks of "implicit Holocaust Deniers."

The books by Lipstadt and other prominent Holocaust historians such as Lucy Dawidowicz had fiercely condemned a long list of America's leading historians and other academic scholars as implicit or explicit Holocaust Deniers, claiming that they continued to

ignore or dispute the reality of the Holocaust even years after the war had ended.



Even more remarkable was the fact that influential Jewish groups such as the ADL seemed unwilling to challenge or criticize even the most explicit Holocaust Denial during the years after World War II. In my research, I discovered a particularly striking example of this:

> Some years ago, I came across a totally obscure 1951 book entitled *Iron Curtain Over America* by John Beaty, a well-regarded university professor. Beaty had spent his wartime years in Military Intelligence, being tasked with preparing the daily briefing reports distributed to all top American officials summarizing available intelligence information acquired during the previous 24 hours, which was obviously a position of considerable responsibility.
>
> As a zealous anti-Communist, he regarded much of America's Jewish population as deeply implicated in subversive activity, therefore constituting a serious threat to traditional American freedoms. In particular, the growing Jewish stranglehold over publishing and the media was making it increasingly difficult for discordant views to reach the American people, with this regime of censorship constituting the "Iron Curtain" described in his title. He blamed Jewish interests for the totally unnecessary war with Hitler's Germany, which had long sought good relations with America, but instead had suffered total destruction for its strong opposition to Europe's Jewish-backed Communist menace.
>
> Beaty also sharply denounced American support for the new state of Israel, which was potentially costing us the

goodwill of so many millions of Muslims and Arabs. And as a very minor aside, he also criticized the Israelis for continuing to claim that Hitler had killed six million Jews, a highly implausible accusation that had no apparent basis in reality and seemed to be just a fraud concocted by Jews and Communists, aimed at poisoning our relations with postwar Germany and extracting money for the Jewish State from the long-suffering German people.

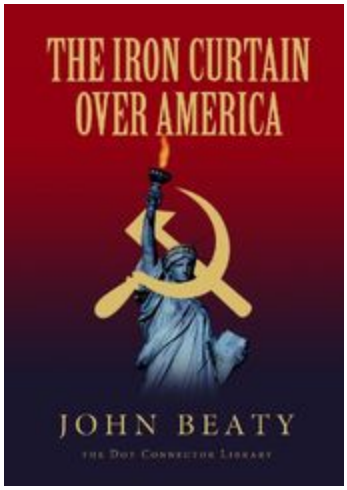
Furthermore, he was scathing toward the Nuremberg Trials, which he described as a "major indelible blot" upon America and "a travesty of justice." According to him, the proceedings were dominated by vengeful German Jews, many of whom engaged in falsification of testimony or even had criminal backgrounds. As a result, this "foul fiasco" merely taught Germans that "our government had no sense of justice." Sen. Robert Taft, the Republican leader of the immediate postwar era took a very similar position, which later won him the praise of John F. Kennedy in *Profiles in Courage*. The fact that the chief Soviet prosecutor at Nuremberg had played the same role during the notorious Stalinist show trials of the late 1930s, during which numerous Old Bolsheviks confessed to all sorts of absurd and ridiculous things, hardly enhanced the credibility of the proceedings to many outside observers.

Then as now, a book taking such controversial positions stood little chance of finding a mainstream New York publisher, but it was soon released by a small Dallas firm, and then became enormously successful, going through some seventeen printings over the next few years. According to Scott McConnell, founding editor of *The American Conservative*, Beaty's book became the second most popular conservative text of the 1950s, ranking only behind Russell Kirk's iconic classic, *The Conservative Mind*.

Moreover, although Jewish groups including the ADL

> harshly condemned the book, especially in their private lobbying, those efforts provoked a backlash, and numerous top American generals, both serving and retired, wholeheartedly endorsed Beaty's work, denouncing the ADL efforts at censorship and urging all Americans to read the volume. Although Beaty's quite explicit Holocaust Denial might shock tender modern sensibilities, at the time it seems to have caused barely a ripple of concern and was almost totally ignored even by the vocal Jewish critics of the work.

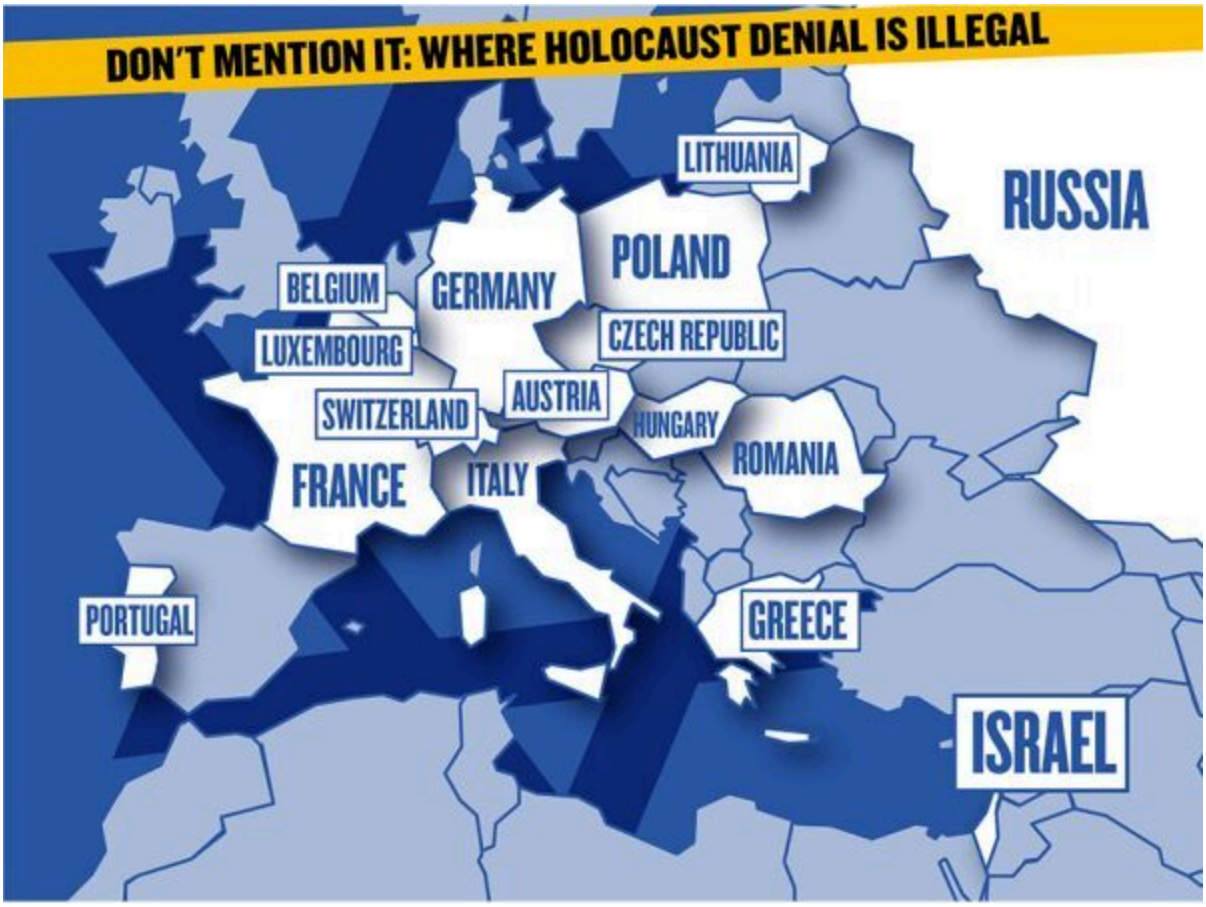
Beaty's huge national bestseller attracted enormous attention as well as massive criticism from Jews and liberals, yet although they energetically attacked him on every other issue, none of them challenged him when he dismissed the Holocaust as merely a notorious wartime propaganda-hoax that few still believed. Furthermore, a long list of our top World War II military commanders strongly endorsed Beaty's book making that claim.



Our modern understanding of the Holocaust can almost entirely be traced back to a seminal 1961 book by historian Raul Hilberg. He had been a child when his family of Jewish refugees arrived in America at the beginning of the war and became outraged that the entire American media was ignoring the extermination of the European Jews as claimed by Jewish activists. Years later, when he attended college, he was further outraged that his history professor — a fellow German-Jewish refugee — seemed not to accept the reality of the Holocaust, so Hilberg decided to make that topic the focus of his doctoral research.

Ironically enough, **leading Jewish scholars urged him to avoid that subject lest he wreck his academic career and for years**

major publishing houses repeatedly rejected his book. However, once he finally got it into print, it proved tremendously popular among Jewish activists, and over the next decade or two had sparked an entire genre of literature, including numerous Holocaust memoirs, though some of the most prominent turned out to be fraudulent. Heavily Jewish Hollywood soon began producing an unending stream of Holocaust-themed films and television programs, eventually enshrining the Holocaust as a central event of the twentieth century. And **once historians or other researchers began disputing these claimed facts, energetic groups of Jewish activists successfully passed laws in Europe and elsewhere outlawing such "Holocaust Denial," while purging or even physically attacking any such dissidents.**



Despite this considerable repression, **a large body of scholarly literature has been produced over the decades that raises enormous doubts about the officially-established Holocaust narrative**, which seems largely to have been created by Hollywood.

Indeed, the first such comprehensive analysis, by a seemingly apolitical professor of Electrical Engineering named Arthur R. Butz, had appeared nearly a half-century ago, probably prompting the interest of *Reason* magazine that same year, and although banned a few years ago by Amazon, Butz's work still remains a very effective summation of the basic case.

- The Hoax of the Twentieth Century *The Case Against the Presumed Extermination of European Jewry* Arthur R. Butz - 1976/2015 - 225,000 Words

After reading it and nearly a dozen other books on both sides of the contentious issue, I closed my long article with the following verdict:

> Any conclusions I have drawn are obviously preliminary ones, and the weight others should attach to these must absolutely reflect my strictly amateur status. However, as an outsider exploring this contentious topic **I think it far more likely than not that the standard Holocaust narrative is at least substantially false, and quite possibly, almost entirely so.**
>
> Despite this situation, the powerful media focus in support of the Holocaust over the last few decades has elevated it to a central position in Western culture. I wouldn't be surprised if it currently occupies a larger place in the minds of most ordinary folk than does the Second World War that encompassed it, and therefore possesses greater apparent reality.
>
> However, some forms of shared beliefs may be a mile wide but an inch deep, and the casual assumptions of individuals who have never actually investigated a given subject may rapidly change. Also, the popular strength of doctrines that have long been maintained in place by severe social and economic sanctions, often backed by criminal penalties, may possibly be much weaker than anyone realizes.

> Until thirty years ago, Communist rule over the USSR and its Warsaw Pact allies seemed absolutely permanent and unshakeable, but the roots of that belief had totally rotted away, leaving behind nothing more than a hollow facade. Then one day, a gust of wind came along, and the entire gigantic structure collapsed. I wouldn't be surprised if our current Holocaust narrative eventually suffers that same fate, perhaps with unfortunate consequences for those too closely associated with having maintained it.

- American Pravda: Holocaust DenialRon Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - August 27, 2018 - 17,600 Words
- American Pravda: Secrets of Military IntelligenceRon Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - June 10, 2019 - 12,500 Words

Question 8: Our Understanding of the War

On page 202, you made the following statement which helps to underscore the grave importance of historical accuracy:

> *"We must also recognize that many of the fundamental ideas that dominate our present-day world were founded upon a particular understanding of that wartime history, and if there seems good reason to believe that narrative is substantially false, perhaps we should begin questioning the framework of beliefs erected upon it."*

This is a thought-provoking statement that makes me wonder whether the last 80 years of bloody US interventions can all be attributed to our "particular understanding" of WW2. It seems to me that our leaders have used this idealized myth of the '"Good War" in which the "exceptional" American people fight the evil of fascism', to promote their warlike agenda and to justify their relentless pursuit of global hegemony.

In your opinion, what is the greatest danger of erecting a

"framework of beliefs" on a false understanding of history?

Ron Unz — The Hollywood-constructed image of our great global triumph in the heroic war against Hitler and Nazi Germany has inspired a legacy of colossal American arrogance, now leading us towards an enormously reckless confrontation with Russia over Ukraine and with China over Taiwan, the sort of geopolitical *hubris* that often leads to *nemesis*, perhaps even *nemesis* of an extreme form given the nuclear arsenals of those rival states. As I wrote soon after the outbreak of the Ukraine War:

> For years the eminent Russia scholar Stephen Cohen had ranked President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Republic as the most consequential world leader of the early twenty-first century. He praised the man's enormous success in reviving his country after the chaos and destitution of the Yeltsin years and emphasized his desire for friendly relations with America, but increasingly feared that we were entering into a new Cold War, even more dangerous than the last.
>
> As far back as 2017, the late Prof. Cohen argued that no foreign leader had been as greatly vilified in recent American history as Putin, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine two weeks ago has exponentially raised the intensity of such media denunciations, almost matching the hysteria our country experienced two decades ago after the 9/11 attack on New York City. Larry Romanoff has provided a useful catalog of some examples.
>
> Until recently, this extreme demonization of Putin was largely confined to Democrats and centrists, whose bizarre Russiagate narrative had accused him of installing Donald Trump in the White House. But the reaction has now become entirely bipartisan, with enthusiastic Trump-backer Sean Hannity recently using his prime-time *FoxNews* show

to call for Putin's death, a cry soon joined by Sen. Lindsey Graham, the ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee. These are astonishing threats to make against a man whose nuclear arsenal could quickly annihilate the bulk of the American population, and the rhetoric seems unprecedented in our postwar history. Even in the darkest days of the Cold War, I don't recall such public sentiments ever being directed towards the USSR or its top Communist leadership.

In many respects the Western reaction to Russia's attack has been closer to a declaration of war than merely a return to Cold War confrontation. Russia's massive foreign reserves held abroad have been seized and frozen, its civilian airlines excluded from Western skies, and its leading banks disconnected from global financial networks. Wealthy Russian private citizens have had their properties confiscated, the national soccer team has been banned from the World Cup, and the longtime Russian conductor of the Munich Philharmonic was fired for refusing to denounce his own country...

Indeed, the closest parallel that comes to mind would be the American hostility directed against Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany after the outbreak of World War II, as indicated by the widespread comparisons between Putin's invasion of Ukraine and Hitler's 1939 attack on Poland. A simple Google search for "Putin and Hitler" returns tens of millions of webpages, with the top results ranging from the headline of a *Washington Post* article to the Tweets of pop music star Stevie Nicks. As far back as 2014, Andrew Anglin of the *Daily Stormer* had documented the emerging meme "Putin is the new Hitler."

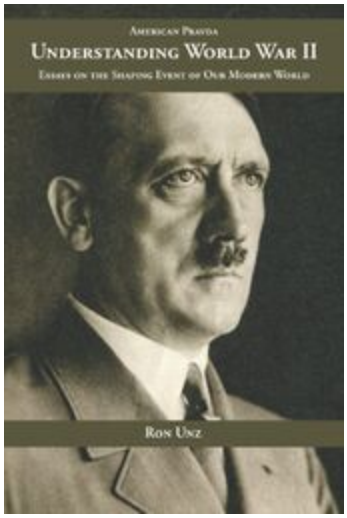
I went on to discuss the extremely dangerous implications of our hysterical anti-Russia policy.

- American Pravda: Putin as Hitler?Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - March 7, 2022 - 7,900 Words
- American Pravda: World War III and World War II?Ron Unz - ***The Unz Review*** - October 24, 2022 - 4,700 Words
- Assassinating Vladimir Putin?Ron Unz ***- The Unz Review*** - May 15, 2023 - 3,700 Words

And as I wrote in 2019, my own assessment of the actual history is considerably different:

> In the wake of the 9/11 Attacks, the Jewish Neocons stampeded America towards the disastrous Iraq War and the resulting destruction of the Middle East, with the talking heads on our television sets endlessly claiming that "Saddam Hussein is another Hitler." Since then, we have regularly heard the same tag-line repeated in various modified versions, being told that "Muammar Gaddafi is

another Hitler" or "Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is another Hitler" or "Vladimir Putin is another Hitler" or even "Hugo Chavez is another Hitler." For the last couple of years, our American media has been relentlessly filled with the claim that "Donald Trump is another Hitler."



During the early 2000s, I obviously recognized that Iraq's ruler was a harsh tyrant, but snickered at the absurd media propaganda, knowing perfectly well that Saddam Hussein was no Adolf Hitler. But **with the steady growth of the Internet and the availability of the millions of pages of periodicals provided by my digitization project, I've been quite surprised to gradually also discover that Adolf Hitler was no Adolf Hitler.**

It might not be entirely correct to claim that the story of World War II was that Franklin Roosevelt sought to escape his domestic difficulties by orchestrating a major European war against the prosperous, peace-loving Nazi Germany of Adolf Hitler. But I do think that picture is probably somewhat closer to the actual historical reality than the inverted image more commonly found in our textbooks.

- More Falsehoods of World War II
- Hitler, Churchill, the Holocaust, and the War in Ukraine

Related Reading:

- Bibliography
- American Pravda: Understanding World War II
- The Remarkable Historiography of David Irving

- American Pravda: Post-War France and Post-War Germany
- American Pravda: Our Great Purge of the 1940s
- American Pravda: Holocaust Denial
- American Pravda: How Hitler Saved the Allies

Comment: Below are some comments to the names, ordered after the question they first appear. On the whole there are so many articles...

1) Hitler evokes comparison in political debate

- Israel slams UN official over Netanyahu-Hitler comparison
- Maduro: Israel has the same Western support as Hitler
- Brazil's Lula compares Israel's 'genocide' in Gaza to Hitler's murder of the Jews
- Erdogan says Netanyahu literally 'Hitler'
- SOTT Focus: Hitler, the Ultimate Rorschach Test
- The Second Coming of Literal Hitler
- Latvia fining citizens for celebrating WWII victory over Hitler
- Police investigating street posters likening Macron to Hitler, threaten fines for 'provocation to rebellion'
- Elon Musk: worse than Hitler
- Zelensky quietly deletes photo of his bodyguard's pro-Hitler patch
- Bill Maher torches Justin Trudeau for attacks on truckers: 'Now you do sound like Hitler'
- Meet the censored: Hitler
- 'Heir of Nazis': Belarus' Lukashenko blasts German foreign minister over call for sanctions on eve of Hitler invasion anniversary

- BBC reporter comes under fire for 2014 tweet that 'Hitler was right'
- CNN host celebrates Antifa violence, says those who oppose them are on the same side as Hitler
- CNN contributor deletes tweet saying 'the world today needs a Hitler'Long march through the institutions: US Special Operations Command appoints partisan 'Diversity & Inclusion' chief who compared Trump to Hitler
- Hungarian official retracts comparing George Soros to Hitler after Jewish community outrage
- Putin slams idea that Hitler & Stalin share equal responsibility for WW2 as 'garbage' promoted by 'ignorant people' in EU Parliament
- Former OSCE official: US, UK & France 'same attitude as Hitler' want "to create their own world where they can do what they want"
- Out-Hitlering Hitler: Israeli official calls for concentration camps, ethnic cleansing of Gazans
- Hitler parallel debate rages in Washington Post
- Hitler mentality: Mothers of all Palestinians must be killed says Israeli MP
- Suspended ex-London Mayor Livingstone avoids Labour expulsion after his comments about the links between Hitler and Zionism
- Netanyahu sets out Israel's credo: 'Weak are slaughtered, strong survive,' echoes of Hitler
- Turkey's Erdogan says 'spirit of Hitler' manifests in leadership of 'fascist, racist' Israel
- NATO's Humble Nazi-Inspired Beginnings: How The West Implemented Hitler's Goals
- Bernie Sanders links Hitler's murder of his family to fight against Palestinian occupation

Below are some articles that have more of a historic angle

- Key to Hitler's success were attacks on capitalism that were considered 'progressive'
- 1913: When Hitler, Trotsky, Tito, Freud and Stalin all lived in Vienna
- Truth vs Hollywood: Author claims Hitler let British troops escape Dunkirk 'to sue for peace treaty'
- Antony Sutton, Skull & Bones, Hitler, The Bush Family
- Adolf Hitler: A look at how the Dunning-Kruger effect manifested itself in a political archetype
- Hitler's "Mein Kampf" becomes surprise German bestseller
- Sales of Hitler's Mein Kampf are surging...
- Controversial new edition of Hitler's Mein Kampf goes on sale in German bookshops and sells out instantly
- White Rose: Germans who tried to topple Hitler
- Jewish DNA link to Hitler's lover
- The single Jew that Hitler wanted to save: Astonishing letter reveals how Führer ordered Gestapo to leave his WW1 commander alone
- Defying Hitler - Sebastian Haffner
- Hitler's first draft of the Holocaust: unique letter goes on show

- Flashback Stalin 'planned to send a million troops to stop Hitler if Britain and France agreed pact'
- Ex-Russian counterspy chief reveals how Hitler tried to assassinate Stalin
- Hitler, Darwin and the Holocaust: How the Nazis horrifyingly distorted the theory of evolution
- Flashback The Americans who funded Hitler, Nazis, German economic miracle, and World War II
- New Book: Social Darwinism and "The Hitler Problem"
- Hitler vindicated after historians discover his ideas came from Darwin

- Oscar-Winning U.S. Filmmaker Oliver Stone Says Adolf Hitler Was "Enabled by Western Bankers"
- Hitler was financed by the Bank of England and the US Federal Reserve
- SOTT Focus: The Mystic vs. Hitler, or Fritz Gerlich's Spectacles
- SOTT Focus: The Mystic vs Hitler

2) Some articles about Winston Churchill

- The crimes of Winston Churchill
- 'Churchill was an imperialist racist': Piers Morgan clashes with professor live-on-air
- Debunking Churchill: It's time to face the painful truth that Winston's vanity and recklessness cost countless British lives and lost the empire
- Top Russian official: Churchill had Stalin killed, US bombed Russian Far East in 50s
- Churchill: Hero, racist, and imperialist
- Declassified 70 years later: Files reveal Winston Churchill thwarted King Edward VIII's Nazi plot to retake British throne
- Essay by Winston Churchill on 'alien life' discovered at Missouri museum
- Winston Churchill left a legacy of global conflict and crimes against humanity
- 'Winston Churchill is no better than Adolf Hitler,' states Indian politician Dr Shashi Tharoor
- Stalin was less of a criminal than Churchill, Truman, and LBJ
- World War II: "Operation Unthinkable", Churchill's planned betrayal and invasion of the Soviet Union, July 1945
- Different era, same mental instability: 'Best Brit Ever' Winston Churchill wanted to wipe Moscow off the map with atomic bomb, FBI memo reveals
- Best of the Web: Play-time is over, children: Putin's message to the Western elites is most important since Churchill's 'Iron

Curtain' speech

- SOTT Focus: Born from the Ashes and Blood or, How FDR, Churchill, and Stalin butchered Poland
- Quoting Winston Churchill gets politician arrested in UK
- Winston Churchill's shocking use of chemical weapons
- Winston Churchill "Caused Death of One Million in Indian Famine"
- Churchill and Eisenhower buried UFO incident during WW2, Churchill realised disclosure would destroy religion
- Churchill demanded UFO briefing: secret files

3) Recently the topic of the role of Churchill in WWII was brought up in a Tucker Carlson interview with historian Darryl Cooper. In his post on X.com from 7:00 PM · Sep 2, 2024, Carlson wrote in his Tweet:

> Darryl Cooper may be the best and most honest popular historian in the United States. **His latest project is the most forbidden of all: trying to understand World War Two.** (1:20) History of the Israel-Palestine Conflict (12:39) The Jonestown Cult **(32:10) World War Two (45:04) How Would You Assess Winston Churchill? (1:17:17) How History Is Rewritten and Propagandized (1:24:39)** Mass Immigration in Europe (1:42:25) The Civil Rights Movement and BLM (1:48:17) Viktor Orban, Vladimir Putin, and Donald Trump (1:58:30) Christianity (2:10:58) Hate Blinds You

The interview drew a lot of attention, at least judging from the number of views, by now 34 million. For some commentary see: The Churchill Meltdown and Its Lessons - *L.P. Koch*

4) The Wiki for Deborah Lipstadt, who appeared in several paragraphs of the article, is a prominent and influential person also today:

> In 1994, President of the United States Bill Clinton appointed her to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, and she served two terms.[3] On July 30, 2021, President Joe Biden nominated her to be the United States Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combating Anti-Semitism.[4][5] **She was confirmed by voice-vote on March 30, 2022, and sworn in on May 3, 2022.[6][7] Lipstadt was named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time magazine in 2023.**[8]

Deborah Lipstadt is mentioned in a couple of older SOTT articles. They connect to what she has written and said in recent years:

- Israel apologist Deborah Lipstadt says all Muslim countries are intolerant of minorities and anti-Zionist Jews are 'belated' Jews (2019)
- Joe Biden launches his war on antisemitism (May 2023, mentioned in the initial paragraphs.)
- The Forward's Peter Beinart: AIPAC should have to register as agent of Israeli government (2019)

> Back in February, Rep. Ilhan Omar made her "Benjamins" crack followed by the comment about people who have "allegiance to a foreign country", and one good thing to come out of the controversy was a discussion between [*Forward* Senior Columnist] Peter Beinart and Deborah Lipstadt at the *Forward* about the dual loyalty charge against Jews and Israel. I listened to it for the first time yesterday, and Beinart is as usual, intellectually brave.
>
> Beinart says dual loyalty is inherent in the ways in which American Jews support Israel.

- Manufacturing anti-Semitism: Yale University Episcopal chaplain forced out by Zionist attacks (Sep 2014, in summary.)

> After a two-week campaign, the Yale University Episcopal chaplain was forced to resign over a letter to the *New York Times* in which he explained that actions such as the recent Israeli war on Gaza were breeding anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere.
>
> The Rev. Bruce Shipman, in a three-sentence letter that was published in the *Times* on August 26, responded to an Op-Ed article by scholar Deborah Lipstadt discussing European anti-Semitism.

The above quote brings history up to the present, as if the ghosts of the Holocaust haunt the present.

5) There are many articles on SOTT about WWII. For a few headlines taken from the first few pages of a search gives:

- Latvia fining citizens for celebrating WWII victory over Hitler
- Putin: West building WWII Axis-style alliance
- Distraught WWII vet warns 'everything we fought for is going down the drain'
- Chinese perspective: US works with Nazis to exploit Europe both in WWII and at present, now targets Ukraine
- Poland's Senate passes bill to outlaw blaming Poles for Holocaust atrocities, triggers diplomatic row with Israel
- "A historic sham": Zelensky's speech to Greece's parliament sparks national outrage, opens WWII-era wounds
- Thousands march to honor WWII Nazi collaborator
- Bought and paid for: How the neo-nazi Ukrainian nationalist movement was nurtured by the CIA post-WWII

- 'They used axes to spare the ammo': How modern Ukraine's Nazi heroes massacred civilians during WWII
- Declassified Soviet files reveal horror crimes of Ukrainian Nazi collaborators
- Poles apart: Warsaw's WWII commemoration puts politics above reconciliation and seeks to perpetuate enmity with Russia

Minor notes:
Pearl Harbour
These SOTT articles mention Pearl Harbour in the text, but it also appears in the title of:
Is Pelosi's trip to Taiwan the 'Pearl Harbour moment' Jake Sullivan called for?
Flashback John Pilger: America's plan for a new Pearl Harbour

Postwar Germany
These SOTT articles mention "Postwar Germany" in the text and the following in the summary: Germany Knew Eichmann's Hiding Place Years Before His Capture

The video with David Irving (Wiki) may not be viewable in all countries. His talk is probably a summary of content that can be found in his first book about Winston Churchill:

- Churchill's War: The Struggle for Power (1987) As an additional possibility there is the later
- Churchill's War Volume II: Triumph in Adversity (1997)

John T. Flynn, brought up in The Purge of Antiwar Intellectuals was more an observer of events, but his name has been mentioned before:

- The machinery of fascism revisited
- Staunch antiwar activist Justin Raimondo dead at 67
- America Is Fascist

Also purged or subdued was the Institute for Propaganda Analysis (Wiki):

> The Institute for Propaganda Analysis (IPA) was a U.S.-based organization operating from 1937 to 1942, composed of social scientists, opinion leaders, historians, educators, and journalists.
> [...]
> After war was declared on Nazi Germany the neutral stance of propaganda analysis was untenable and the IPA folded in January 1942 with the final issue of its bulletin:

The association was not revived after the war. Is it then a surprise we 80+ years later have an article with a title like the above: "Why Everything You Know About World War II Is Wrong"

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